

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, MASS, BEXP, IC, NATO

SUBJECT: IDF RETENTION IMPLEMENTATION

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION CINCLANT INFO AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

FROM COMICEDEFOR JAN 15TH REPEATED TO YOU FOR INFO

QUOTE

//N05710//

IDF RETENTION IMPLEMENTATION (U)

A. AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK 0041

1. (U) MEETING NR FIVE OF THE COORDINATING GROUP TOOK PLACE ON MONDAY,

13 JAN., IN AMB. HANS ANDERSEN'S OFFICE AT THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WITH AMB. IRVING, AMB. ANDERSEN AND RADM RICH PRESENT. THE PRUPOSE OF THE MEETING WAS TO CONDUCT PRELIMINARY TALKS ON "INCREASED COOPERATION" WITH THE COAST GUARD AND CIVIL AVIATION AS SET FORTH IN THE OCT. 74 MOU.

2. (C) MR. PETUR SIGUARDSSON, DIRECTOR ICELANDIC COAST GUARD, DISCUSSED SOME OF THE SHORTCOMINGS OF EQUIPMENTS PRESENTLY INSTALLED IN C.G. SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT AND THE INADEQUACY OF HIS CURRENT INVENTORY (PARTICULARLY AIRCRAFT) TO PERFORM THE MISSION. HE THEN OUTLINED HIS PLANS/ASPIRATIONS FOR THE FUTURE. INCLUDED IN ORDER OF PRIORITY WERE: (A) PURCHASE OF ONE ROCKWELL

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INTERNATIONAL TURBO COMMANDER 690A AIRCRAFT FOR CLOSE IN

SURVEILLANCE AND SAR;

(B) PURCHASE OF TWO OR THREE BELL HELICOPTER JET RANGER 206 HELOS TO OPERATE FROM COAST GUARD SHIPS (PROBLEMS OUTLINED IN REF A GERMANE); (C) PROCUREMENT OF SUITABLE RADIO AND RADIO TELETYPE EQUIPMENT TO PROVIDE RELIABLE SHIP-SHORE COMMUNICATIONS; (D) PROCUREMENT OF UNSPECIFIED NUMBER OF SIKORSKY S-62A HELICOPTERS (USCG MODEL HA-52A) FOR SAR. ALSO DISCUSSED WAS POSSIBLE DEVELOPMENT OF AN EMERGENCY CAPABILITY TO REFUEL DEFENSE FORCE SAR HELOS FROM COAST GUARD VESSELS. MR. SIGUARDSSON EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO ESTABLISH AN IDF LIAISON OFFICER BILLET AT CG HEADQUARTERS IN REYKJAVIK TO FUNCTION AS A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT WITH THE DEFENSE FORCE.

3. (U) SINCE THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING WAS JUST TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION AND IDEAS, NO SPECIFIC ACTION WAS AGREED TO EXCEPT IN THE CASE OF THE LIAISON OFFICER. ORIGINATOR CONCURS IN THE DESIRABILITY OF A SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT AT CG HEADQUARTERS AND PLANS ARE BEING MADE TO ESTABLISH SUCH A LINE OF COMMUNICATION.

4. (C) AT THE SECOND HALF OF THE SESSION, MR. AGNAR KOFOED-HANSEN, DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION, MADE AN INFORMAL PRESENTATION ON AREAS WHERE HE FELT A POTENTIAL EXISTED FOR "INCREASED COOPERATION" WITH THE DEFENSE FORCE. HIS REMARKS STRESSED THE COMMON INTEREST TO ENHANCE AVIATION SAFETY AND THE RELIABILITY OF OPERATIONS FOR ALL USERS AT KEFLAVIK AIRPORT. HE STATED THAT IN HIS JUDGMENT THE CIVIL AVIATION ANNEX TO THE 1951 DEFENSE AGREEMENT WAS BADLY OUT OF DATE AND NEEDED TO BE BROUGHT UP TO DATE. HE CITED AS AN EXAMPLE THE PROVISION IN ARTICLE 6 OF THE ANNEX THAT SAYS, "...THE UNITED STATES WILL ASSIST ICELAND IN EVERY PRACTICABLE MANNER" IN THE TRAINING OF ICELANDIC PERSONNEL IN THE FIELD OF AVIATION. AS THE PRESENTATION CONTINUED, IT SOON BECAME APPARENT THAT HE WAS UNDER THE MISTAKEN IMPRESSION THAT THE DEFENSE FORCE WAS GOING TO TRAIN A NUMBER OF ICELANDERS AS RADAR TECHNICIANS AND AIR CONTROLLERS TO "TAKE OVER" THE RADAR SITES AT H-1 AND H-3. COMMENTS: HE APPARENTLY SAW THIS AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO GET HIS FOOT IN THE DOOR TO START DEVELOPING A RADAR AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM FOR ICELAND WITH USG PROVIDING THE EQUIPMENT AND FUNDING ALL REQUIRED TRAINING. BOTH AMB. IRVING AND ORIGINATOR ARE WELL AWARE OF DEVIOUS METHODS OF OPERATION OF MR. KOFEOD-HANSEN. ANY INPUT HE MAKES TO SUBJECT DISCUSSIONS WILL REQUIRE CAREFUL SCRUTINY. IN ADDITION, HE RECOMMENDED THAT AN AIR SAFETY

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SURVEY BE CONDUCTED SIMILAR TO THE 1958 STUDY DONE BY CAA. (COMMENT: THIS STUDY WAS THE GENESIS OF A PROGRAM TO INSTALL A VHF/UHF COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK THROUGHOUT ICELAND. THIS PROGRAM WAS USG FUNDED (CAA) AND HAS BEEN MAINTAINED BY GOI.) THE FINAL ITEM WAS AN APPEAL FOR COOPERATION AND SUPPORT FOR THE ICELANDIC AIR RESCUE ORGANIZATION. (COMMENT: THE LAST ITEM HAS NOT BEEN THOROUGHLY WRUNG OUT YET, BUT THE IDF SAR DETACHMENT HAS NEVER HEARD OF SUCH AN ORGANIZATION. CLOSE COOPERATION IS

MAINTAINED WITH THE ICELANDIC LIFE SAVING ASSOCIATION AND THE
COAST GUARD TO INSURE EFFECTIVE SAR COVERAGE. NO ACTION TAKEN
OR PLANNED AT THIS TIME. CIDF DOES CONCUR IN THE DESIRABILITY
OF AN AIR SAFETY SURVEY, BUT LIMITED TO DOD PERSONNEL AT THIS
TIME. THIS WILL BE THE SUBJECT OF SEPARATE CORESPONDENCE.

5. (U) THE FOREGOING HAS BEEN COORDINATED WITH AMEMBASSY
REYKJAVIK.

GDS-80.

UNQUOTE.

IRVING

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